What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method for warning the driver of a motor vehicle, in which case at least one signaling means generates at least one optical warning,
wherein the at least one signaling means generates the at least one optical warning in the direction of at least one object in the field of view of the driver,the at least one object being situated in the vicinity of the motor vehicle.

2. The method as recited in Claim 1,
wherein the at least one optical warning is generated at least prior to the at least one object becoming visible to the driver.

3. The method as recited in one of the preceding claims,
wherein the at least one optical warning is at least one patch of light and/or at least one warning symbol.

4. The method as recited in one of the preceding claims,
wherein the display duration and/or the repetition frequency and/or the size and/or the color and/or the intensity of the at least one optical warning is changeable.

5. The method as recited in one of the preceding claims,
wherein the at least one optical warning is generated immediately prior to the at least one object becoming visible to the driver.

6. The method as recited in one of the preceding claims,
wherein the at least one optical warning is generated as a function of the driving situation, in particular as a function of the dangerousness of the driving situation.

7. The method as recited in one of the preceding claims,
wherein the at least one optical warning is at least generated as a function of optical signals of the surroundings of the motor vehicle,the optical signals being generated by at least one image-sensor system, in particular an infrared-sensitive image-sensor system.

8. The method as recited in one of the preceding claims,
wherein at least one projection device and/or at least one head-up display in the form of a signaling means generates the at least one optical warning.

9. A device for warning the driver of a motor vehicle, comprising at least one signaling means for generating at least one optical warning,
wherein the at least one signaling means has means for generating the at least one optical warning in the direction of at least one object in the field of view of the driver,the at least one object being situated in the vicinity of the motor vehicle.

10. The device as recited in Claim 9,
wherein the at least one signaling means has at least one of the means specified below:

- means for generating the at least one optical warning in the direction of at least one object in the vicinity of the motor vehicle at least prior to the at least one object becoming visible to the driver;
- means for generating at least one patch of light and/or at least one warning symbol as the at least one optical warning;
- means for changing the display duration and/or the size and/or the color and/or the intensity of the at least one optical warning;
- means for generating the at least one optical warning in the direction of at least one object in the vicinity of the motor vehicle immediately prior to the at least one object becoming visible to the driver;
- means for generating the at least one optical warning as a function of the driving situation, in particular as a function of the dangerousness of the driving situation.

11. The device as recited in one of Claims 9 or 10,
wherein the device includes at least one image-sensor system, in particular at least one infrared-sensitive image-sensor system, for generating optical signals of the surroundings of the motor vehicle, and/or the at least one signaling means is at least one projection device and/or at least one head-up display.